



SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 7.

It is hoped the proposition now before the legislature to amend the State constitution so as to provide for reducing the number of separate elections, may be adopted before the adjournment of that body. Hardly has the excitement of one election, under the existing election provision of the constitution, subsided, before that of another commences, and as the people of Virginia are born politicians, the constant exercise of their natural bent leaves them but little time for more profitable employment. More elections should be held at one time, so as to lessen the number of election days. The consequent increased facilities for swapping votes would be more than compensated for by the numerous benefits that would necessarily result from the proposed change. The election law also should be amended so as to provide that each candidate shall be voted for on a separate ticket, and that the tickets for each office shall be deposited in a separate box. By this means the whole trouble of scratched tickets would be avoided, and the results of elections be attainable within a short time after the close of the polls, and not, as now, towards, or even after, midnight.

NOWWITHSTANDING THE full, plain and true statement of all the proceedings in the case of the receivership of the Falls Church Register, which has been published, and which the Washington Republican acknowledges it has seen, that paper, which published a statement to the effect that the affair was a democratic bulldozing attempt to break up a republican newspaper, persists in asserting that certain detached facts in the case, "give color to the Register's side of the story," that is, to the incorrect statement the Republican had previously published. The Republican, so far at least as partisanship and sectionalism are concerned, is not morally acquitted, but morally stoned.

THE SECRETARY of the Navy has determined to have the old U. S. ship Hartford repaired. No matter how much money may be spent in repairing her, she will be as totally unfit for naval service after her repairs shall have been completed as she is now. Such a useless waste of money would not be made if the Treasury were not overflowing with millions of dollars for which there is no use. The object of this expense is to preserve a memorial of the war between the States; but the wisest nations of which history makes mention, deemed it the safest policy to obliterate, not perpetuate, the memories of their civil wars.

AS OUR people have evinced a lively interest in the efforts that have been made to obtain a charter from the Legislature of Virginia for the construction of a railway known as the Mineral Railway, it is proper, we think, that they should know that the gentlemen interested in this matter were materially assisted and aided in their efforts by the warm, hearty and unremitting labors of our representatives of this district. To the Hon. Charles E. Stuart, Speaker of the House, and the Hon. Eliza E. Merrieth, our Senator, the thanks of our citizens are due for any benefit that may result to our city from the enterprise.

THE NEWS from Richmond to day in respect of the proposed settlement of the State debt is of a more hopeful character than that which had preceded it. Should the hope revived by it be realized, a great obstacle to the rapid rise and progress of Virginia will be removed, and the democratic party in the State be greatly strengthened.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Correspondence of the ALEX. GAZETTE.] WASHINGTON, D. C., May 7, 1887.

In a talk with the GAZETTE's correspondent, this morning, at the Metropolitan Hotel, about General Sheridan's late interview on his letter, General Rosser said: "Sheridan admits that he has done nothing to atone for his barbarous, uncivilized and unsoldierly acts committed during the war, saying 'that it had never occurred to him that he was called on to do so.' His burning of supplies of bread and forage found in the Valley might have been regarded as a military necessity, to enable him, with a force of five Federals to one Confederate, to cope successfully with his adversary, but if such had been the case, could that end not have been as successfully reached by removing those supplies from the barns and mills, that they might have been destroyed without destroying the buildings? Was it a military necessity to destroy the dwellings which sheltered the defenseless and the feeble for the sake of the destruction of a few bushels of grain or a few bundles of straw or hay? It is true that I am very sorry I did not have something like an equal force with which to have opposed him in the Valley, for had that been the case the grand old army of the United States would to-day be in better hands than his. I am glad that Gen. Sheridan has determined not to make his 'parade up the Valley' for such an exhibition would be a sickening sight to the brave people who live there and who have a proper estimate of his character. With me, the war ended at Appomattox in 1865, and is now buried in the dim past. My estimate of Sheridan's character is not tempered by individual spite, and my letter was only written to warn my comrades of the coming into their midst of that inhuman monster."

Representative Love, of Virginia, is still in the city. His love of his city, and of every thing pertaining to it, unlike that of most other men, is advantageous to him, at least it was yesterday. Being from Virginia, he is naturally fond of horse racing, and so he has been in constant attendance

upon the races here. Up to yesterday his betting had been unsuccessful, but on that day he put a large sum of money upon Richmond, and won enough to make all his losses good, to pay the expenses of his trip here, and to carry away a good deal more than he brought here with him. Mr. Love appeared at court here to-day as counsel for Matthews, a young man from Richmond, who is charged with stabbing Postberg, an artist of this city, at a brewery here one night last week.

Queen Kapiolani visited the Treasury Department this morning and was escorted through the building by Secretary Fairchild. She was accompanied by Minister and Mrs. Carter, Gen. Domines, Capt. Taylor, U. S. A., Lieut. Rodgers, U. S. N., and Mr. Brown, of the Department of State. Mrs. Fairchild joined the party at the Treasury and assisted the Secretary in explaining the different points of interest. The cash vaults were visited, and the Queen seemed to take a deep interest in the mountains of gold and silver stored therein. She was, however, more particularly interested in the administration of the life saving service, and said she desired to introduce the same system into her own kingdom. The Queen and suite will leave Washington this afternoon for Boston. Lt. Cowles, who commanded the Dispatch, when she took the Queen to Mt. Vernon yesterday, in his address to the Queen, told her "the Secretary of the Navy was always glad to render service to a beautiful woman, and was doubly pleased when that beautiful woman was herself." This speech has made the Lieutenant notorious, for no mortal ever before included beauty among the Queen's attractions.

Among the strangers in the city to day is State Senator Meredith, of the Alexandria district, Va. The Senator says when he left Richmond last night the feeling about the settlement of the State debt seemed to be decidedly more hopeful than it had been. There was no definite information that he knew of to warrant this feeling, but it seemed to be in the air that the prospect of a settlement was brighter than it ever had been before. He said that possibly the Englishmen may have received instructions from home to so abate their demands for interest as to be willing to accept seven or eight hundred thousand dollars as the annual amount thereof, and if that be so, he said, the State could afford to pay it readily without increasing taxation, and without curtailing any of her other appropriations. The Senator said he had a good deal of trouble in getting the Mineral Railroad bill through the Senate without amendment. Should the debt question be settled, he said, he thought the legislature would adjourn next week.

Representative Taubee, of Kentucky, who took such a prominent part in the proceedings of the recent democratic convention of his State, was at the Capitol to-day. To the GAZETTE's correspondent he said the newspaper report printed here to the effect that he had been hoisted down for his opposition to the resolution endorsing the President was utterly incorrect. He had with him the manuscript of the original resolution offered by Mr. McKenzie, which avouched the wisdom of the President and pledged him the unqualified and unconditional support of the convention in the future. That resolution, Mr. Taubee says, would have been defeated if it had been submitted to a vote of the convention. In committee it was essentially modified, among other ways by omitting all mention of the word wisdom, and by only pledging support to the future acts of the President that may be worthy of democratic support. In reply to a question as to whether the Kentucky delegation to the next national democratic convention would be for Cleveland, he said that would depend altogether upon the disposition of the other democrats in the State to oppose those who hold federal offices.

Ex-representative Barbour, of the Alexandria district, has gone to New York on private business.

A BALLOON PROPELLED BY AN ELECTRIC MOTOR.—Successful experiments have been made at Metz, Germany, with a navigable balloon, propelled by an electric motor. The Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung says the balloon is the invention of a German engineer named Welker, who for some time was employed in America, where he perfected his discovery. The German government, the paper says, has bought the invention, paying for it 1,000,000 marks down and another 1,000,000 which is to be paid in installments. The speed of the balloon exceeds that of a railway train, and it may be stopped and directed at will, moving against the wind. Whatever truth there may be in the report, says a cable dispatch, it is certain that the residents of Metz are now nightly startled by an electric illumination hovering at a great height over their houses.

The stories, once so current, that seeds taken from ancient Egyptian tombs have grown, are believed, if not demonstrably false, to lack the guarantees of truth that tales of the kind should require; and nothing as to the vitality of seeds can be built upon them. But Dr. Lindley tells of raspberries that were raised in the gardens of the horticultural society from seed taken from the stomach of a man who was buried in a barrow near the time of the Emperor Hadrian; and Professor Duchartre and others tell of seeds, whose identity is properly vouched for, taken from house foundations of an old house in Paris, probably from the original soil of the island, and therefore coeval with the city, which germinated and proved to be seeds of *juncus bufonius*, an indigenous plant of that soil.

Brown is a big St. Bernard dog of Boston, famous for his intelligence. It was his habit to go with the nurse when she wheeled the baby out for an airing. There was a high embankment with a steep incline going down at a sharp angle, and on one occasion the nurse, going in to pay a visit to some friends, left the carriage with the baby in it perilously near the dangerous spot. Something started the wheels in motion and the carriage rolled down toward the dangerous edge; in a moment more it must have gone over, when Brown threw himself before the wheels and lay there, holding the carriage back by the weight of his body until the truant maid returned.

Through a Parisian scientific authority the statement is made that the effect of gravitation in heaping up sea waters upon the land is one of the most interesting though least considered geological facts. Thus, the continents are all situated at the tops of hills of water, and, in crossing the Atlantic, the ship has first to go down hill, then to cross a valley, and finally to climb another hill. In this connection, the interesting calculation has been made that half a mile below the level it would have had continents exerted no attraction.

RECOVERS A FORTUNE.—At the beginning of the civil war a Southern grocer, fearing his property would be confiscated, came north, and left with his bookkeeper all he had in the world, which was valued at \$400,000. Some six years ago the merchant, who lived in New Haven, Conn., through counsel, commenced an investigation, which resulted in the return by his former bookkeeper of the property with interest, the whole amounting to \$438,000. There was no obligation but that of honor to return the property.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Black Diamond Coal Co., of Kanawha county, W. Va., has made an assignment.

A Detroit lawyer who wanted to marry every pretty girl he met has been adjudged insane.

Beach, the carman, has signed articles for a race with Hanlan on the Nepean river Australia, on November 26 for \$500 a side.

The Arthur statue committee have determined to erect a statue to the late President in New York as well as at the cemetery in Albany.

The British House of Commons yesterday agreed to Sir Edward Clarke's motion not to treat the *Times*' publication as a breach of privilege.

Gould, the ex-New York dive keeper, says he would rather spend a month in jail in this country than be at liberty for two days in Canada.

The Treasury Department has informed Ray, W. E. C. Smith, of Emanuel Church, Boston, that he cannot import an iron church edifice from England free of duty.

The exploring party that went down yesterday into the mine, at Nansaimo, B. C., discovered the dead lying in all directions. All hope is now given up of saving any of the miners alive.

Judge Morris, of Baltimore, has decided that the State oyster police steamers are liable to inspection by the federal authorities, and that the State must pay \$3,000 fine for refusing to allow the inspection to be made.

The Czarina has donated one hundred thousand roubles to General Gresser, prefect of St. Petersburg, in recognition of his services in frustrating the recent plot against the Czar's life, and the Czar has granted him a pension of six thousand roubles as a reward for his services in arresting Nihilists.

Hon. Jefferson Davis has written a review of Gen. Wolsley's life of Gen. Lee. Mr. Davis takes exception to many of the English General's statements, and while not finding fault with the superlative opinion of Gen. Lee's military ability expressed in the book, shows very plainly that he considers Gen. Wolsley's criticisms of other Southern leaders unjust.

A three year old boy, of Waterbury, Ct., who was born with deformed legs, has had the deformity removed by surgical operations. The surgeon broke one of the legs three times, and the other one twice, and then straightened and reset the bones. The child endured the operation well under ether, and now walks long distances with only a slight limp, which will disappear in time.

Gen. Greely, Chief Signal Officer, yesterday sent out circulars announcing that, beginning with to-day, a special weekly bulletin will be issued, with the view of promptly placing before the public each Monday morning reliable information relative to the climatic conditions which have existed the previous week in the agricultural districts of the country. The bulletin will include comparisons with corresponding weeks in previous years, and will be issued for the purpose of adding persons interested in calculating the conditions of growing crops and their probable yield.

The Battlefield Memorial Association have refused the request of the Pickett Association for permission to place a monument commemorating Pickett's charge inside the Union lines at Gettysburg, though they were granted the privilege of marking the spot where Gen. Armistead fell mortally wounded after he had passed the Union works. The Memorial Association recommended the erection of the monument on the avenue to be opened on the Federal line overlooking the ground passed over in the charge—a more prominent site than the one proposed. The plan submitted is for a granite structure about 12 feet high.

As stated in the GAZETTE, Queen Kapiolani and suite visited Mount Vernon yesterday and expressed themselves as highly pleased with the trip. Last night the royal party were entertained at a State dinner by the President. The Queen wore a full train of white satin, the front richly embroidered with gold bullion. Across her corsage she displayed a wide red sash, one of the orders of royalty. The Princess was in black velvet and black lace, the front of the dress being composed of embroidery and black thread lace. Mrs. Cleveland was in white satin, white lace and pearls, with diamond necklace.

In the State Senate yesterday the House bill repealing the license-tax on drummers, was reported with an amendment.

The original bill proposed to repeal sections 30 and 31 of the law which defined what a sample-merchant was and imposed a license-tax upon him. The amendment leaves section 30 as it now stands, but amends section 31 so as to exclude the drummer of ardent spirits. Two sections are added providing for the drummer of ardent spirits and imposing a license-tax of \$50 upon him. The object of this is to bring the sale of liquor by sample within the purview of the police power of the State.

The bill removing the disabilities of John L. Lee, of Amherst, and B. C. Mosby, of Bedford, was passed, two thirds voting in the affirmative.

James Alexander, of Mecklenburg, was nominated for doorkeeper, vice Wilson, resigned.

In the House of Delegates a bill was introduced to confine in jail not less than one nor more than thirty days any one convicted of carrying concealed weapons in addition to the fine as now.

The Senate bill to validate and make effectual the proceedings in and the decree of divorce pronounced in the Corporation Court of Alexandria January 14, 1887, in the chancery suit of Mary E. Holmes, by her next friend, vs. E. C. Holmes, was passed. The bill "to prevent the Governor, Board of Directors, or Superintendent of the Penitentiary from hiring convicts to engage in the manufacture of products where machinery is used" was ordered to its engrossment, as was also the bill for paying Messrs. Moon, Barton and Hazlewood compensation for time given to investigating the First Auditor's office.

The Senate bill to incorporate the Virginia Immigration, Land, and Improvement Company, which was defeated on a former day by a tie vote and reconsidered on the motion of Speaker Stuart, was again defeated—ayes, 21; noes, 38.

House bills were passed to authorize the Board of Commissioners of Roads of Lovettsville district, in the county of Loudoun, to make an additional levy for road expenditures; to incorporate the Falls Church and Potomac Railway Company, and to incorporate the Hillsboro Water Company.

Mr. Payne introduced a bill amending the law in regard to labelling packages of fertilizers. This law provides that every manufacturer shall have permanently affixed to every package a label specifying the manufacturer's name, place of business, net weight of package, and analysis showing how much phosphoric acid, insoluble phosphoric acid, nitrogen and potash is contained. Penalty—\$100 for the first offense, and \$200 for the second and each subsequent offense.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

The Warrenton Index says Harvey Ralls the reputed editor of the *Elk Run Gazette*, died to-day one week ago.

As S. Howdenscheidt, aged 21 years, was engaged in sawing down trees for railroad ties last Thursday, in Harwood district, Stafford county, a large oak fell upon him, killing him instantly.

In the lower house of the West Virginia Legislature yesterday a bill to establish the boundary line between the States of West Virginia and Virginia and appropriating money to pay expenses was passed.

Mr. Thomas Bowler, an aged and respected citizen, of Stafford, died at his late residence near Potomac Run, in the 82nd year of his age, last Saturday. He had been paralyzed for a number of years.

The body of Lindsey Anderson, a respected colored man of Bedford county, was found yesterday morning suspended from the limb of a tree within a few hundred yards of his residence, in a dense piece of woods nine miles northwest of Liberty. He had been missing for the past three weeks. The body was in an advanced state of decomposition. Anderson undoubtedly committed suicide.

The State Senate yesterday unanimously passed the resolution donating a site on the Capitol Square in Richmond, for the erection of the monument to Gen. R. E. Lee. Mr. James B. Pace, treasurer of the Lee Camp, has received a check for \$500 from Mrs. S. B. Lee, of New York. The letter accompanying the gift expresses the hope that it will make some of the brave sufferers more comfortable.

Robert H. Lee, Jr., left Warrenton on Thursday for Washington to fill an engagement as contortionist with Forepaugh's circus at a salary of \$100 per week and expenses, but returned home yesterday. Forepaugh proposing to divide the \$100 per week among three contortionists, which arrangement was not satisfactory to young Lee. Distinguished New York surgeons before whom Robert lately appeared pronounced him an "anatomical puzzle."

A telegram to the Richmond Dispatch from Farmville says: "A dreadful affair happened at Cumberland Courthouse late Thursday evening. A negro man (Tom Armistead) imprisoned for burglary was picking at the wall with a chisel, trying to effect an escape. As Deputy Sheriff Agee started in the door to take the chisel away from him he drew out a large knife and gave Agee a deep wound in the arm. King Adams and Commonwealth's Attorney Lancaster ran to the rescue, when the negro gave Adams several deep wounds in the lung and breast, and cut Lancaster in the abdomen and let his bowels out. Sheriff Armistead and Mr. Flanagan ran up, and Sheriff Armistead succeeded in getting in a blow on the negro's head, knocking him senseless. Adams and Lancaster are in a critical condition. It would not be a surprise if the negro is lynched to-night."

Prince William County Items.

Mr. John Sullivan died on Wednesday morning at his home near Woodbine Church, in his 91st year.

Messrs. Tyler & Denn, of Buckland, manufactured and shipped to Philadelphia during the month of April over 5,000 yards of cloth.

A meeting of the members of the bar of Prince William county, to take action relative to the death of the Hon. John C. Weed, was held at Brentsville on Tuesday. Mr. E. E. Meredith was called to the chair, and J. B. T. Thornton chosen as secretary. Mr. C. E. Nicol offered a series of suitable resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Mr. C. E. Brawner has purchased of Mr. W. S. Pickett for the sum of \$10,000, the Cannon House, located in Manassas, including the lots, stables and out-buildings annexed, and one thousand dollars worth of furniture now in the house. Mr. Pickett purchased the residence of Mr. Brawner, on Centre street, for the consideration of \$3,000. Mr. Brawner to complete a barn now in course of erection on his premises. Both are to take possession of their purchases on the 1st of June.

EX-EMPRESS EUGENIE.—No figure of contemporary life is more interesting than Eugenie, ex-empress of the French. De-throned, widowed and childless, the loneliness and pathos of her old age contrast sadly with the splendor of her early years on the throne. One of our American writers said of her in her days of glory: "She is the prettiest woman, with the least sense, in all Europe." Her education was as limited as her toilets were splendid and extravagant. She always had at hand more than 300 gowns, and parasols, fans, furs, laces and other toilet adjuncts beyond number. Throughout her married life she received in monthly payments pin money to the amount of \$240,000 a year, and spent it to the last franc. When she fled from the Tuilleries she left everything but her jewels, and they would not have been saved had it not been for the efforts of Mme. Carette, one of her ladies in waiting. The ex-empress has one possession supposed to be able to make any one's life somewhat fair, if not happy, and that is money. She is one of the richest women in Europe. Her revenue comes from three sources—the insurance on the Emperor's life, the product of savings and speculations, and the real estate she bought in her own name when on the throne. She has estates in Spain, Switzerland and Hungary, and under her son's will she acquires properties near Trieste and in Tuscany, as well as houses and grounds in Toulouse.

THE RAT'S WEAPONS.—The rat is finely equipped for the peculiar life he is ordained to lead. He has strong weapons in the shape of four long and very sharp teeth—two in the upper jaw and two in the lower. These teeth are wedge-shaped, and by a wonderful provision of nature have always a fine, sharp, cutting edge. On examining them carefully, the inner part is found to be of a soft, ivory-like composition, which can easily be worn away, and the outside is composed of a glass-like enamel, which is exceedingly hard. The upper teeth work into the under so that the centres of the opposed teeth meet perfectly in the act of gnawing, hence the soft part is being continually worn away, while the hard part keeps a sharp, chisel-like edge all the time, and at the same time the teeth are constantly growing up from the bottom, so that as they wear away a fresh supply is ready. Should one of these teeth be removed by accident or otherwise, the opposing tooth will continue to grow, and there being nothing to wear it away, it will project from the mouth and be turned upon itself, and if it be an under tooth it will grow so long as to penetrate the skull.

COURT OF APPEALS YESTERDAY.—Norfolk and Western Railroad Company against Jackson's administrator. [Further argued by Judge William J. Robertson for plaintiff in error and submitted.] Jones against Finch. Argued by Capt. John S. Wise for plaintiff in error and W. W. Henry, esq., for defendant in error and submitted.



TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

The Debt Question.
[Special Dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.] RICHMOND, May 7.—The legislative committee say that so far the foreign commissioners have only made a suggestion, which is that instead of net revenues amounting to \$604,000 per annum, the State could, by economizing in appropriations to the public schools, lunatic asylums, disabled soldiers, etc., run the amount up to between eleven and twelve hundred thousand dollars, and this sum, they think, should go to the payment of interest. The bondholders ask for their undiminished principal (\$31,000,000) and for the capitalization of over-due coupons (over \$4,000,000), and for interest to the amount of \$1,100,000 or \$1,200,000 per annum. The legislative committee offer \$22,000,000 principal and \$660,000 interest.

LATER.
RICHMOND, May 7.—The debt commission will hold a meeting this afternoon. One of the members of the commission said this afternoon: "We are not far apart," and another member of the commission remarked, "Tide indications for a settlement are more hopeful."

A cablegram from London was received to-day by Sir Edward Thornton, but its contents are not known. B. P. O.

The Recent Storm.

MARQUETTE, Mich., May 7.—As communication improves the reports of the recent wind storm are coming in freely. The thirteen counties of the upper peninsula were all swept. In some rich pine fields the trees were mowed down like grass, and millions of feet of pine destroyed. Houses were unroofed or demolished, buildings scattered, and chimneys and outhouses destroyed. Scarcely a town or settlement escaped. Only three fatalities are reported, but many were seriously injured. There was no cyclone, but the wind was a straight blast of from 2 to 10 hours duration. It is estimated that the damage in the upper peninsula will reach \$100,000, including the pine stumpage destroyed. Shipping in the harbors was badly shaken up but not much damaged.

The Recent Mine Disaster.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 7.—The telegraph wires between British Columbia and the south were down yesterday. Last night telegrams from the *Colonist's* Nanaimo correspondent state that the latest investigations show that 101 white men, and 75 Chinese were in the mine at the time of the explosion. At 2 o'clock Michael Lyons, a mule driver, 18 years old, was found lying 750 yards from the hoisting shaft in level No. 1. He was lying at his station near a dead mule. He is terribly burned about the face and breast. His father is in the mine. Lyons was taken to the school house. A cave in evidently occurred just beyond where he was found.

Volcano.

NOGALES, A. T., May 7.—Parties from Sonora report a volcano three days ago, 35 miles southeast of Magdalena, and that it is throwing out great volumes of smoke and lava. From the position of the fire, which is distinctly seen from several stations on the Sonora railway, it is supposed to be in the Sierra Azul mountains. The reported volcano in the Whetstone mountains is a timber fire in the mountains. There is much excitement in the vicinity of the mountains, and a large party will leave here to-morrow to visit the place. Another earthquake shock was felt here last night, but no damage was done.

Charged with Murder.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 7.—Circumstantial evidence secured by a coroner's jury investigating the death of Charles Tillpang, of Port Washington, Wis., an old man who was mysteriously murdered yesterday, resulted in the arrest of Ernest Pfeiffer. A cylinder pin of a revolver found at the scene of the murder, fitted into the prisoner's revolver which he had thrown into a stove. Pfeiffer became confused when faced with the evidence, and told a very contradictory story.

Motion Denied.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., May 7.—Judge Wallace, of the U. S. Circuit Court (southern district of New York), in the case of Decker vs. the Baltimore and New York Railroad Company, sustains the demurrer and denies the motion for an injunction to restrain the defendants from building a bridge across Staten Island Sound.

Anarchist Sentenced.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 7.—Paul Grottkau, the anarchist who made incendiary speeches at Milwaukee Garden, last May, was this morning sentenced to one year at hard labor in the House of Correction.

The Florida Senatorship.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 7.—The Legislature, in joint session, to-day, voted for U. S. Senator, with the following result: Perry, 25; Pasco, 11; Bloxham, 24; Goodrich, rep. 14.

Two Hundred Houses Burned.

PESTH, May 7.—Two hundred houses have been destroyed by fire in the town of Nagy Karoly, Transylvania. The castle of Count Karolyi narrowly escaped destruction.

Laying the Keel.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Cramp & Sons yesterday laid the first keel plate for the new cruiser "Baltimore" at the yard in Philadelphia.

The inhabitants of the Andaman Islands are the smallest race of people in the world. The average height of a full grown Andaman is four feet five inches, and few weigh over seventy six pounds. They are marvelously swift of foot, and, as they smear themselves over with a mixture of oil and red ochre, present a very strange appearance. Few travelers care to encounter any of these bellicose little people, for their skill in throwing the spear and in using the bow is only equaled by their readiness to attack strangers.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Nellie Adamsky, aged 18 years, was married two weeks ago, in New York, and went to housekeeping with her husband. Wednesday she attempted suicide by taking Paris green. Too much mother-in-law seems to have been the trouble. The husband is a violin player in a theatre, and was compelled to be away a great deal. His mother would then come to the house and find fault, and make things uncomfortable. Wednesday, when Adamsky was at the matinee, his mother visited his wife, and they had an unusually savage encounter. Nellie was much depressed when he went away for the evening performance. She was not home when he returned at 11 o'clock, and she did not come in until 2 o'clock next morning. She then said, "Your mother has killed me. I have taken poison." She was taken to a hospital and recovered under vigorous treatment.

An Albany newspaper tells of a well-to-do but very careful gentleman who recently told a friend in good faith that he had discovered how to save on his butter bill. "Just spread your bread with butter," said he, "then scrape it off as closely as you can, and hold the buttered side down when you eat it. Your tongue strikes the butter at once, and you get just as much flavor as if you had three times as much butter and ate it the other way."

Edward Samuel, of St. Louis, finding it hard to stop drinking whiskey, became discouraged, and jumped from a railroad bridge at Nashville. He dropped seventy-five feet, and then struck the water, feet first, with so much force that the sole of one shoe was torn off, and one leg of his trousers ripped open. He was not seriously hurt.

An account is given of a young man in Lincoln, Cal., who is possessed of eyes peculiarly resembling those of an owl. His sight is imperfect in daylight, but in the darkest night he readily distinguishes objects entirely invisible to ordinary eyes.

A plan for the fertilization of the African desert is afoot, and it is thought the project will meet with success. A system of artesian wells are being sunk for the purpose of irrigation. Each well, it is estimated, supplies nearly four thousand acres.

Southern Russia is noted for the wretchedness and ignorance of its peasant farmers. The women are frequently compelled to serve in the capacity of railway signal posts, and perform various other offices belonging to men.

The most densely populated city in the world is said to be New York. There are eighty-five thousand people to the square mile. In one instance, twenty-five hundred human beings occupy one building.

The number of subjects to the British Crown who do not speak English is estimated at two hundred and twenty-five thousand.

Patti did not sing in Baltimore last night, because "she was fatigued."

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

NEW YORK, May 7.—The opening of the stock market was generally heavy, declines from last evening's final figures ranging up to 3 per cent, though a large proportion of the active list was unchanged. Most of the stocks were quiet to dull. The market developed a strong local fractional advance was established throughout the list. The general list halted toward eleven o'clock and became heavy. At 11 o'clock the market was quiet and heavy. Money easy at 4 1/2.

NEW YORK, May 7.—The weekly bank statement shows the following changes: Reserve decrease, \$2,617,325; loans, increase, \$1,808,100; specie, decrease, \$777,700; legal tenders, decrease, \$807,003; deposits, increase, \$4,947,389; circulation, decrease, \$45,300. The banks now hold \$1,522,600 in excess of the 25 per cent. rule.

BALTIMORE, May 7.—Virginia bonds consolidated—past-due coupons—10-10; 41; new 41—bid to-day.

ALEXANDRIA MARKET, May 7.—Flour is firm and in fair demand. The wheat market continues strong; we again note an active inquiry for prime lots from both millers and dealers, but damaged and inferior samples do not fully partake of the advance, and buyers still discriminate closely as to grade; futures close firm and steady, with a little increase in the volume of sales reported. Corn, Rye and Oats are more active and in general pathy with wheat. Produce is without notable change.

BALTIMORE, May 7.—Cotton a shade easier, middling 10 1/2. Flour steady and firm. Wheat, Southern firm and fairly active; red 95 1/2; white 95 1/2; winter red 95 1/2; white 95 1/2; corn, Southern 55 1/2; white 55 1/2; yellow 55 1/2; Rye 51; Western firm and dull; mixed 47 1/2; 48 1/2; June 47 1/2; 48 1/2; July 48 1/2; Aug 48 1/2; bid; steamers 47 1/2; 48 1/2; Oats firm; Southern and Penna 35 1/2; Western white 35 1/2; do mixed 34 1/2. Rye firm at 57 1/2. Potatoes steady and quiet. Eggs firmer at 11 1/2. Whiskey steady at \$1 23 1/2. Other articles unchanged.

GALVESTON, May 7.—The million and a half bushels of June wheat sold yesterday in the Chicago wheat pit at 87 1/2c is understood here to have been to the account of Galveston parties who were taking in their profits. This wheat netted its holders about 3c per bushel all around. In addition to this the Galveston syndicate owns 1,800,000 bushels of actual wheat in Chicago, and this wheat was delivered last Monday. Moreover, they did not get all the spot they wanted, and have outstanding contracts for 500,000 bushels additional, which they are ready to receive. These Galveston bulls have confidence in dollar wheat before the end of June, and are holding their cash stuff for \$1.20. They are simply adding to this the Galveston syndicate owns 1,800,000 bushels of actual wheat in Chicago, and this wheat was delivered last Monday. Moreover, they did not get all the spot they wanted, and have outstanding contracts for 500,000 bushels additional, which they are ready to receive. These Galveston bulls have confidence in dollar wheat before the end of June, and are holding their cash stuff for \$1.20. They are simply adding to this the Galveston syndicate owns 1,800,000 bushels of actual wheat in Chicago, and this wheat was delivered last Monday. Moreover, they did not get all the spot they wanted, and have outstanding contracts for 500,000 bushels additional, which they are ready to receive. These Galveston bulls have confidence in dollar wheat before the end of June, and are holding their cash stuff for \$1.20. They are simply adding to this the Galveston syndicate owns 1,800,000 bushels of actual wheat in Chicago, and this wheat was delivered last Monday. Moreover, they did not get all the spot they wanted, and have outstanding contracts for 500,000 bushels